Navratna Status to Oil Companies

89. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the oil companies which have been granted Navratna Status;

(b) the extent of freedom being enjoyed by the Navratna Oil Companies in this discharge of their day-to-day operation;

(c) whether it is a fact that the existing extent of discretion allowed to them is not sufficient to take speedy decisions in commercial matters; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating to give greater autonomy to Navratna Oil Companies to compete effectively in the wake of entry of private company in the petroleum sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The following oil companies have been granted Navratna Status:—

1. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
2. Indian Oil Corporation Limited.
3. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.
4. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.
5. Gas Authority of India Ltd.

(b) and (c) Navratna Companies have been granted enhanced autonomy and delegation regarding investment decision etc., through their Boards. Navratna Boards now competent to take investment decisions without any monetary ceiling. The process of approvals has, as a result, got speeded up.

(d) There is no such proposal.

Susbsidy Paid on LPG

90. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy is paid on LPG;

(b) if so, the cost of production and transportation of 14 kg of LPG produced by IOC, HPCL and BPCL separately and the subsidy paid thereon;

(c) whether subsidy is also paid on cylinder; and